

These are under the immediate care of Miss Barker, who, however, is much hampered for want of assistance.

The French work, in some phases requiring more skill and patient perseverance perhaps than other apparently darker fields, will be reported separately.

Throughout the year the Japan work has occupied much thought, being wholly dependent on this society for its support, and such important steps having to be taken in connection with it. Letters from Miss Cartmell at first suggested the establishing of day-schools, further investigation and thought showed that something more permanent and far-reaching in its influence was desirable, namely, having a few (in addition to day pupils) under constant Christian supervision and care, with the hope that some among these having received the truth might be trained to do work as evangelists among their own countrywomen. Thus the idea has grown, and with it the opportunities of carrying it out, at least as far as making preparation for this most desirable object is concerned.

The General Missionary Society of our church purchased a most advantageous piece of ground in an elevated and healthful part of the city of Tokio, on which they have built a school for boys.

On a lower plateau of this same hill they have allowed us to erect a building which will accommodate twenty girls, and also furnish comfortable apartments for two lady missionaries. All has been done under the constant advice and supervision of the Rev. Dr. MacDonald, chairman of the district, to whom our best thanks are due for his unwearying kindness and attention to our interests.

Many times Miss Cartmell's heart has almost failed her as she has had to decide important questions without time to consult the Society at home; but yet she has remembered that she was sent to find work for the Master, and to do it to the best of her ability in *our stead*, and words from friends in the home land have cheered her on the way. After much delay and ceremony with the government, she at last moved into the new building on the 9th September, and there in the midst of confusion, alone in the house, in a heathen neighborhood, with the exception of Dr. Cochran and family, who occupy the house on the top of the hill, she writes: "Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life. Twice to-day has the promise of peace been given me, and the benediction rests upon me. It is the most dominant feeling in my heart to-night. 'I will both lay me down in peace and sleep, for the Lord only maketh me to dwell in safety.' These new pages turned in life always have a most solemnizing effect upon me. I am glad it is so. I would not like to be indifferent to the weighty responsibilities awaiting each onward movement. I turn away from the clean page that lies before me, now tremblingly, yet confident that

'The past is still in God's keeping,
The future His mercy shall clear.'

It was hoped that the school would be opened on the 1st October.

The question of securing another lady for the Japan work has also occasioned a good deal of thought and anxiety; but it is believed that success has crowned the efforts of the committee, or rather that as it was a matter touching "the kingdom," the King has called the right one to this post of duty and service. A Christian young lady of culture and experience, of practical good sense and energy, has signified her willingness to accept the call to labor in that distant field, and we crave for her the anointing of the Holy Spirit to abide with her for ever.

Thus our field is enlarging, and with it our responsibilities, and we can but rest in the assurance "He will make all grace abound toward you that ye always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good word and work."

The following is a summary of the strength of the society numerically:

LONDON CONFERENCE BRANCH.

(Organized September, 1882.)

19 auxiliaries, 670 members, 42 life members and 1 mission band; income, \$2,041.77.

15 auxiliaries
\$2,235.19.

7 auxiliaries

4 auxiliaries
income, \$681.91.

40 members

34 members

8 members.

45 members

33 members

4 branches,
income, \$6,421.

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